

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Device for the combustion of gas containing hydrocarbons that can be burned in the presence of air, in which the fuel gas arrives by a central supply ~~(4)~~ comprising a gas supply tube (1) situated along the axis of a body forming a venturi (2),

wherein the venturi (2) comprises an upstream conical converging part (3), an intermediate cylindrical neck part (4) and a downstream conical diverging part (5),

wherein a plurality of gas supply tubes (6) are annularly arranged in at least one ring around the ~~central~~ gas supply tube (1), at least the ends of the annularly arranged gas supply tubes (6) having their axes diverging from the ~~central~~ gas supply tube (1) and appreciably parallel to a wall of the downstream conical diverging part (5),

wherein the ~~central~~ gas supply tube (1) extends into the converging part (3) up to a first point situated at ~~the~~ a level of the juncture of where the converging part (3) ~~and is joined to~~ the neck (4), and

wherein the annularly arranged gas supply tubes (6) extend into the converging part (3) up to a second point, such that each of the annularly arranged gas supply tubes (6) extends up to the same second point, and

wherein the second point is situated at the level where the converging part (3) is joined to the neck (4) or the second point is situated in the converging part (3) at a level before the converging part (3) is joined to the neck (4) at the same depth which can be the same as or less than the depth of penetration of the central tube (1).

AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No. 09/869,523

2. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of the annularly arranged gas supply tubes (6) is sized in such a way that it can carry between 1% and 33% of said gas.

3. (currently amended): Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the diameter of the central gas supply tube (1) has a diameter, is different in diameter than each~~ of the annularly arranged tubes (6) has a diameter, and the diameter of the gas supply tube (1) is different than the diameter of each of the annularly arranged tubes (6).

4. (currently amended): Device according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of the annularly arranged gas supply tubes (6) is sized in such a way that it can carry between 5% and 33% of said gas.

5. (currently amended): Device according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the diameter of the central gas supply tube (1) has a diameter, is greater in diameter than each of~~ the annularly arranged tubes (6) has a diameter, and the diameter of the gas supply tube (1) is greater than the diameter of each of the annularly arranged tubes (6).

6. (canceled).